

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 298992

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. THE PLO SPEAKS WITH THE QUAI

DURING TALKS LAST WEEK, THE PLO'S POLITICAL CHIEF, FAROUQ KADDUMI, TOLD THE QUAI:

--THE PLO INTENDS TO RESPECT THE CAIRO ACCORDS, BUT WILL NOT RELINQUISH ITS HEAVY ARMS IN LEBANON, AS SARKIS HAD ENVISIONED.

--THE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL IS UNLIKELY TO FORM A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, BUT WILL PROBABLY AUTHORIZE CREATION OF A GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY FOR LIBERATED TERRITORIES.

--THE ALLON PLAN IS UNACCEPTABLE, AS THE PLO REJECTS BOTH REPRESENTATION IN A JORDANIAN DELEGATION AND THE
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IDEA OF A JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN STATE.

EMBASSY PARIS COMMENT: THE FRENCH NOW BELIEVE THE PLO MIGHT BE WILLING TO SETTLE FOR ADMISSION AT THE SECOND STAGE OF A GENEVA CONFERENCE IF THEY ARE ACCEPTED ON AN "EQUAL FOOTING" WITH THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) PARIS 36089, 12/7.)

2. BITSIOS AND CAGLAYANGIL TO MEET

EMBASSY ATHENS HAS LEARNED THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS BITSIOS AND CAGLAYANGIL WILL MEET IN BRUSSELS FOLLOWING THE NATO MINISTERIAL TO TRY AND RESOLVE THE AEGEAN DISPUTE. TALKS ARE LIKELY TO BEGIN IN JANUARY ON DELINEATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, BUT FAILURE TO AGREE ON THE LOCATION OF A 36-MILE WIDE "SECURITY ZONE" HAS STALLED DISCUSSIONS ON DIVIDING THE AIR SPACE ABOVE IT. THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID THE TWO MINISTERS MAY DEAL WITH THIS MATTER, BUT MORE LIKELY WILL SET A DATE IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY FOR A MEETING OF EXPERTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) ATHENS 12966, 12/7.)

3. MADRID: SUAREZ TALKS POLITICS WITH WILLY BRANDT

EMBASSY MADRID REPORTS WILLY BRANDT WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ' DECISIVENESS, GRASP OF THE ISSUES, AND EVIDENT INTEREST IN DEMOCRACY DURING HIS DECEMBER 4-7 VISIT TO SPAIN. ACCORDING TO THE FRG AMBASSADOR, SUAREZ TOLD BRANDT:

--GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE NEW CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES AND THE SENATE MAY NOW SLIP UNTIL APRIL OR MAY TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR PREPARATIONS.

--HE IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE OPPOSITION AND DISCUSS SUCH TOPICS AS THE ELECTORAL LAW.

--HE FAVORS EARLY LEGALIZATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, WHICH HE HOPES WILL HELP THE GOVERNMENT SHORE UP SPAIN'S TROUBLED ECONOMY. (CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 9280, 12/9.)

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4. BAHRANI ANALYSIS OF GULF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

BAHRAINI FOREIGN MINISTER AL KHALIFA TOLD AMBASSADOR CLUVERIUS HE ASCRIBES IRAQ'S INITIAL ENTHUSIASM ON GULF SECURITY TO ITS DESIRE TO DISPLAY GOODWILL TO IRAN WHEN BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE ON THE UPSWING. ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER:

--PRESENT IRAQI OBSTRUCTIONISM IS MORE TRUE TO FORM.

--THE GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE WAS ONLY A
BEGINNING AND EXPECTATION OF SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS
WOULD HAVE BEEN PREMATURE. (CONFIDENTIAL) MANAMA
2071, 12/8.) ROBINSON

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